



The City Council of the City of Columbus, Texas met in ^{special}regular session on Thursday, September 21, 2023, at 5:30 PM, in the Council Chambers of City Hall located at 605 Spring St., Columbus, Texas, with the following present:

Mayor – Lori An Gobert
Mayor Pro Tem – Chuck Rankin
Councilman – Keith Cummings
Councilman – Ronny Daley
Councilwoman – Paige Sciba
Councilman – Michael Ridlen
City Manager – Donald Warschak
City Secretary – Bana Schneider
Assistant City Secretary – Dinah Jacobs

Other City Staff present included:

Code Enforcement – Richard LaCourse

1. Call to Order

Mayor, Lori An Gobert, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation

Gobert led the pledge and invocation.

The Mayor observed a moment in memory of former City Councilman Ronnie Rogers.

3. Citizens' Presentations and Comments¹

There were none.

4. Public Hearing on the Property Tax Rate for Tax Year 2023 and Fiscal Year 2024

[2023.TAX RATE NOTICE.pdf](#) 

Gobert opened the public hearing at 5:32 p.m.

With no comments, the public hearing was closed at 5:33 p.m.

5. Consideration and Action to Ratify the Budgeted Property Tax Increase Reflected in the 2023-2024 Budget.

I move to ratify the budgeted property tax increase as reflected in the 2023-2024 budget.

Moved by: Paige Sciba

Seconded by: Keith Cummings

Aye Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley
Nay Chuck Rankin

Carried 4-1

6. Consideration and Action to Approve Ordinance 271-23, an Ordinance Establishing the Combined Property Tax Rate of \$0.29500. [ORD 271-23 TAX RATE.pdf](#)

I move that the property tax rate be increased by the adoption of a tax rate of \$0.29500, which is effectively a 5.99 percent increase in the tax rate.

Moved by: Paige Sciba

Seconded by: Keith Cummings

Aye Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley
Nay Chuck Rankin

Carried 4-1

7. Consideration and Action to Approve the Closure of Bowie Street from the Nesbitt Memorial Library Parking Lot to Houston Street from 4:00 p.m. Until 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, October 26, 2023 for the Columbus Elementary School Fall Ball. [FALL BALL STREET CLOSURE.pdf](#)

Motion to approve the street closure as presented.

Moved by: Paige Sciba

Seconded by: Ronny Daley

Aye Michael Ridlen, Paige Sciba, Chuck Rankin, Keith Cummings, and Ronny Daley

Carried 5-0

8. Items from Councilmembers²

Cummings - none

Daley - none

Sciba - none

Ridlen - none

Rankin - none

Gobert - none

9. Announcements

There were no announcements.

10. Adjournment

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.



Lori An Gobert, Mayor

Attest:



Dinah Schneider, City Secretary

DINAH JACOBS

¹During this agenda item, citizens may comment for the record on items, which are not on the agenda. However, the Council may not participate in discussion or deliberation on any item that is not on the agenda. Citizens may request that a topic be added to a future agenda.

²Limited to statements. Issues raised by councilmembers under this item cannot be deliberated by Council. The Open Meetings Act does not allow Council to deliberate items that don't appear on the agenda.